



City Councilmember  
**Carl DeMaio**

News Release

## **DeMaio to Unveil Reform Package to “Make City Government Work Again”**

*State of District Speech to Outline Long-Term Transformation of City Government*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 21, 2009

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SAN DIEGO – Seven months into his term, City Councilmember Carl DeMaio will deliver his first major public address: A State of the District and Vision Speech on Transforming City Government.

Warning that the “city’s current financial practices are still not sustainable” DeMaio’s speech will address four key themes: 1. Fiscal Recovery, 2. Clean and Safe Neighborhoods, 3. Open and Honest Government and 4. Fostering a Jobs-Friendly and Sustainable Economy.

“I want to make city government work again for all San Diegans. Achieving that goal will require we restore the city’s financial health, but it will also require we fundamentally rethink and transform how the city government provides services to our residents,” commented DeMaio.

Among the proposals DeMaio will announce tonight:

- **Open Government Act:** Imposing the toughest sunshine laws in the nation such as putting the city’s checkbook, all contracts, and elected official calendars online.
- **Campaign Finance Reform:** Requiring disclosure on all contributors regardless of amount given and requiring business and labor groups to get written permission from their membership before using dues for political campaign purposes.
- **Labor Negotiations:** Reforming city salaries and benefits to be in line with the local labor market. To accomplish this, DeMaio will propose two amendments to the City Charter: one to designate the Mayor, not the City Council, as the city’s labor negotiator. Another to eliminate an arcane provision of the Charter that gives city employees a veto on key pension reform.
- **Performance Audits:** Identifying cost saving ideas through performance audits of at least 50% of the city budget over the next three years.
- **Renewable Energy and Water Plan:** Expanding water storage facilities and recycled water systems for irrigation. Creating a renewable energy utility district and expanding Power Purchasing Agreements to make city government one of the biggest generators of solar energy using city facilities and private financing.

After announcing he will campaign to make the Strong Mayor form of government permanent in the June 2010 election, DeMaio will go further and pledge “if city politicians refuse to make these reforms, I will turn to you – the public -- and work with you to use ballot initiatives to impose these critical reforms on city government from the outside.”

“We have an opportunity to become a model on how city government can operate in an efficient, accountable, and effective way,” DeMaio concludes.

The speech will begin at 7:00pm at Marshall Middle School -- 9700 Avenue of Nations, 92131. For more information, visit [www.CleanUpCityHall.com](http://www.CleanUpCityHall.com).